

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. – 53. (Canceled).

54. (Withdrawn-currently amended) The apparatus of claim 144 further ~~An apparatus,~~ comprising:

a tubular sleeve;

~~a first tubular member coupled to an end of the tubular sleeve, the first tubular member comprising internal threads at an end portion;~~

~~a second tubular member coupled to another end of the tubular sleeve, the second tubular member comprising external threads at an end portion that engage the internal threads of the end portion of the first tubular member; and~~

a coupling member engaged between an outer end surface of one of the ends of the tubular sleeve and an outer surface of one of the first and second tubular members.

55. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 54, wherein the tubular sleeve is in circumferential tension;

wherein the end portion of the first tubular member is in circumferential compression; and
wherein the end portion of the second tubular member is in circumferential compression.

56. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 54, wherein the tubular sleeve is in circumferential compression;

wherein the end portion of the first tubular member is in circumferential tension; and
wherein the end portion of the second tubular member is in circumferential tension.

57. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 54, wherein the tubular sleeve comprises an internal flange.

58. (Withdrawn-previously presented) The apparatus of claim 57, wherein the end portion of the first tubular member is received within the end of the tubular sleeve; and
wherein the end portion of the second tubular member is received within the other end of the tubular sleeve.

59. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 58, wherein the end portions of the first and second tubular members abut the internal flange of the tubular sleeve.

60. (Withdrawn-previously presented) The apparatus of claim 57, wherein the end portion of the first tubular member is received within the end of the tubular sleeve.

61. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 60, wherein the end portions of the first and second tubular members abut the internal flange of the tubular sleeve.

62. (Withdrawn-previously presented) The apparatus of claim 57, wherein the end portion of the second tubular member is received within the other end of the tubular sleeve.

63. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 62, wherein the end portions of the first and second tubular members abut the internal flange of the tubular sleeve.

64. (Withdrawn-previously presented) The apparatus of claim 57, wherein the internal flange of the tubular sleeve is positioned between the ends of the tubular sleeve.

65. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 57, wherein the internal flange of the tubular sleeve is positioned at an end of the tubular sleeve.

66. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 54, wherein the tubular sleeve comprises an external flange.

67. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 66, wherein an end portion of the tubular sleeve is received within the first tubular member; and

wherein another end portion of the tubular sleeve is received within the end portion of the second tubular member.

68. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 67, wherein the end portions of the first and second tubular members abut the external flange of the tubular sleeve.

69. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 66, wherein an end portion of the tubular sleeve is received within the end portion of the first tubular member.

70. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 69, wherein the end portions of the first and second tubular members abut the external flange of the tubular sleeve.

71. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 66, wherein an end portion of the tubular sleeve is received within the end portion of the second tubular member.

72. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 71, wherein the end portions of the first and second tubular members abut the external flange of the tubular sleeve.

73. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 66, wherein the external flange of the tubular sleeve is positioned between the ends of the tubular sleeve.

74. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 66, wherein the external flange of the tubular sleeve is positioned at an end of the tubular sleeve.

75. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 54, wherein the tubular sleeve further comprises one or more sealing members for sealing the interface between the tubular sleeve and at least one of the tubular members.
76. (Withdrawn-previously presented) The apparatus of claim 54, wherein:
the coupling member comprises a retaining ring positioned between the end of the first
tubular member and the end of the tubular sleeve.
77. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 76, further comprising:
another retaining ring positioned between the end of the second tubular member and the
other end of the tubular sleeve.
78. (Withdrawn-previously presented) The apparatus of claim 54, wherein:
the coupling member comprises a retaining ring positioned between the end of the first
tubular member and the other end of the tubular sleeve.
79. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 76, wherein the retaining ring is resilient.
80. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 77, wherein the retaining ring and the other retaining
ring are resilient.
81. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 78, wherein the retaining ring is resilient.
82. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 54, wherein the end of the tubular sleeve is deformed
onto the end of the first tubular member.
83. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 82, wherein the other end of the tubular sleeve is
deformed onto the end of the second tubular member.

84. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 54, wherein the other end of the tubular sleeve is deformed onto the end of the second tubular member.
85. (Withdrawn-previously presented) The apparatus of claim 54, wherein:
the coupling member comprises a retaining ring coupled to the end of the first tubular member for retaining the tubular sleeve onto the end of the first tubular member.
86. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 85, further comprising:
another retaining ring coupled to the end of the second tubular member for retaining the other end of the tubular sleeve onto the end of the second tubular member.
87. (Withdrawn-previously presented) The apparatus of claim 54, wherein:
the coupling member comprises a retaining ring coupled to the end of the second tubular member for retaining the other end of the tubular sleeve onto the end of the second tubular member.
88. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 85, wherein the retaining ring is resilient.
89. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 86, wherein the retaining ring and the other retaining ring are resilient.
90. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 87, wherein the retaining ring is resilient.
91. (Withdrawn-previously presented) The apparatus of claim 54, wherein:
the coupling member comprises a locking ring for coupling the end of the first tubular member to the end of the tubular sleeve.
92. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 91, further comprising:
another locking ring for coupling the end of the second tubular member to the other end of the tubular sleeve.

93. (Withdrawn-previously presented) The apparatus of claim 54, wherein:
the coupling member comprises a locking ring for coupling the end of the second tubular
member to the other end of the tubular sleeve.
94. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 54, further comprising:
a structure for receiving the first and second tubular members and the tubular sleeve;
wherein the tubular sleeve contacts the interior surface of the structure.
95. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 94, wherein the tubular sleeve further comprises:
a sealing member for fluidically sealing the interface between the tubular sleeve and the
structure.
96. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 94, wherein the other structure comprises a wellbore.
97. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 94, wherein the other structure comprises a wellbore
casing.
98. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 54, wherein the tubular sleeve further comprises a
sealing element coupled to the exterior surface of the tubular sleeve.
99. (Canceled).
100. (Withdrawn-currently amended) The apparatus of claim 129-54, wherein the tubular sleeve
is non-metallic.
101. (Withdrawn-currently amended) The apparatus of claim 129-54, wherein the tubular sleeve
is plastic.

102. (Withdrawn-currently amended) The apparatus of claim 129-54, wherein the tubular sleeve is ceramic.

103. (Withdrawn-currently amended) The apparatus of claim 129-54, wherein the tubular sleeve is frangible.

104. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 54, wherein the tubular sleeve comprises one or more longitudinal slots.

105. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 54, wherein the tubular sleeve comprises one or more radial passages.

106. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 54, wherein the first and second tubular members are amorphously bonded.

107. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 54, wherein the first and second tubular members are welded.

108. (Withdrawn-previously presented) The apparatus of claim 54, wherein the internal threads of the first tubular member and the external threads of the second tubular member together provide a fluid tight seal.

109. (Previously presented) An apparatus, comprising:
a tubular sleeve comprising an internal flange positioned between the ends of the tubular sleeve;
a first tubular member received within an end of the tubular sleeve in abutment with the internal flange, the first tubular member comprising internal threads; and
a second tubular member received within another end of the tubular sleeve in abutment with the internal flange, the second tubular member comprising external threads that engage the internal threads of the first tubular member;

wherein the tubular sleeve and the first and second tubular members are radially expanded and plastically deformed placing:
the tubular sleeve in circumferential tension;
the end of first tubular member in circumferential compression; and
the end of the second tubular member in circumferential compression.

110. (Withdrawn-currently amended) The apparatus of claim 130 wherein~~An apparatus,~~
~~comprising:~~

~~at~~the tubular sleeve ~~comprising~~seizing an external flange positioned between the ends of the tubular sleeve;

~~at~~the first tubular member ~~that receives~~the ~~an~~ end of the tubular sleeve and abuts the external flange ~~that comprises internal threads~~; and

~~at~~the second tubular member ~~that receives~~the another end of the tubular sleeve ~~and that~~ abuts the external flange ~~that comprises external threads that engage the internal threads of the first tubular member~~;

~~wherein the tubular sleeve is in circumferential compression;~~

~~wherein the first tubular member is in circumferential tension; and~~

~~wherein the second tubular member is in circumferential tension.~~

111. (Canceled).

112. (Canceled).

113. (Canceled).

114. (Canceled).

115. (Canceled).

116. (Canceled).

117. (Canceled).

118. (Canceled).

119. (Canceled).

120. (Canceled).

121. (Withdrawn-currently amended) A method of radially expanding and plastically deforming a first tubular member and a second tubular member, comprising:

coupling an end of the first tubular member with an end of a metallic tubular sleeve using a first coupling member engaged with an outer surface of the end of the first tubular member and an end surface of the metallic tubular sleeve;

coupling an end of the second tubular member with another end of the metallic tubular sleeve using a second coupling member engaged with an outer surface of the end of the second tubular member and another end surface of the metallic tubular sleeve;

threadably coupling the ends of the first and second tubular members;

placing the tubular members within a wellbore; and

displacing an expansion device through the interiors of the first and second tubular members to radially expand and plastically deform portions of the first and second tubular members.

122. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 121, wherein the ends of the first and second tubular members are received within the ends of the tubular sleeve.

123. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 121, wherein the ends of the first and second tubular members receive the ends of the tubular sleeve.

124. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 121, wherein, before, during, and after the radial expansion of the portions of the first and second tubular members, a fluid tight seal is provided by the interface between the tubular sleeve and the ends of the first and second tubular members.

125. (Currently amended) A method of radially expanding and plastically deforming a first tubular member and a second tubular member, comprising:

coupling an end of the first tubular member with an end of an aperture-free tubular sleeve;
coupling an end of the second tubular member with another end of the aperture-free tubular sleeve; and

displacing an expansion device through the interiors of the first and second tubular members to radially expand and plastically deform portions of the first and second tubular members;

wherein, before, during, and after the radial expansion of the portions of the first and second tubular members, a fluid tight seal is provided by the interface between the aperture-free tubular sleeve and the ends of the first and second tubular members.

126. (Original) The method of claim 125, wherein the ends of the first and second tubular members are received within the ends of the tubular sleeve.

127. (Original) The method of claim 125, wherein the ends of the first and second tubular members receive the ends of the tubular sleeve.

128. (Previously presented) The method of claim 125, further comprising:

placing the tubular members within a wellbore prior to displacing the expansion device through the interiors of the first and second tubular members to radially expand and plastically deform the portions of the first and second tubular members.

129. (Previously presented) An apparatus, comprising:
a tubular sleeve;

a first tubular member coupled to an end of the tubular sleeve, the first tubular member comprising internal threads at an end portion; and
a second tubular member coupled to another end of the tubular sleeve, the second tubular member comprising external threads at an end portion that engage the internal threads of the end portion of the first tubular member;
wherein the tubular sleeve and the end portions of the first and second tubular members are radially expanded and plastically deformed placing:
the tubular sleeve in circumferential tension;
the end portion of the first tubular member in circumferential compression; and
the end portion of the second tubular member in circumferential compression.

130. (Previously presented) An apparatus, comprising:
a tubular sleeve;
a first tubular member coupled to an end of the tubular sleeve, the first tubular member comprising internal threads at an end portion; and
a second tubular member coupled to another end of the tubular sleeve, the second tubular member comprising external threads at an end portion that engage the internal threads of the end portion of the first tubular member;
wherein the tubular sleeve and the end portions of the first and second tubular members are radially expanded and plastically deformed placing:
the tubular sleeve in circumferential compression;
the end portion of the first tubular member in circumferential tension; and
the end portion of the second tubular member in circumferential tension.

131. (Previously presented) An apparatus, comprising:
a tubular sleeve;
a first tubular member coupled to an end of the tubular sleeve, the first tubular member comprising internal threads at an end portion; and

a second tubular member coupled to another end of the tubular sleeve, the second tubular member comprising external threads at an end portion that engage the internal threads of the end portion of the first tubular member;
wherein the tubular sleeve comprises an internal flange;
wherein the coupled tubular sleeve and first and second tubular members include a radially expanded and plastically deformed position.

132. (Withdrawn-currently amended) ~~An apparatus, comprising:~~
~~a tubular sleeve;~~
~~a first tubular member coupled to an end of the tubular sleeve comprising internal threads at an end portion; and~~
~~a second tubular member coupled to another end of the tubular sleeve comprising external threads at an end portion that engage the internal threads of the end portion of the first tubular member;~~The apparatus of claim 130 wherein the tubular sleeve comprises an external flange.

133. (Previously presented) An apparatus, comprising:
a tubular sleeve;
a first tubular member coupled to an end of the tubular sleeve, the first tubular member comprising internal threads at an end portion; and
a second tubular member coupled to another end of the tubular sleeve, the second tubular member comprising external threads at an end portion that engage the internal threads of the end portion of the first tubular member;
wherein the tubular sleeve further comprises one or more sealing members for sealing the interface between the tubular sleeve and at least one of the tubular members;
wherein the coupled tubular sleeve and first and second tubular members include a radially expanded and plastically deformed position.

134. (Withdrawn-currently amended) The apparatus of claim 144 further ~~An apparatus,~~ comprising:

- ~~a tubular sleeve;~~
- ~~a first tubular member coupled to an end of the tubular sleeve comprising internal threads at an end portion;~~
- ~~a second tubular member coupled to another end of the tubular sleeve comprising external threads at an end portion that engage the internal threads of the end portion of the first tubular member; and~~
- a retaining ring positioned between the end of the first tubular member and the end of the tubular sleeve.

135. (Withdrawn-currently amended) The apparatus of claim 144 further ~~An apparatus,~~ comprising:

- ~~a tubular sleeve;~~
- ~~a first tubular member coupled to an end of the tubular sleeve comprising internal threads at an end portion;~~
- ~~a second tubular member coupled to another end of the tubular sleeve comprising external threads at an end portion that engage the internal threads of the end portion of the first tubular member; and~~
- a retaining ring positioned between the end of the first tubular member and the another end of the tubular sleeve.

136. (Withdrawn-currently amended) The apparatus of claim 144 ~~An apparatus,~~ comprising:

- ~~a tubular sleeve; a first tubular member coupled to an end of the tubular sleeve comprising internal threads at an end portion; and~~
- ~~a second tubular member coupled to another end of the tubular sleeve comprising external threads at an end portion that engage the internal threads of the end portion of the first tubular member;~~

wherein the end of the tubular sleeve is deformed onto the end of the first tubular member.

137. (Withdrawn-currently amended) The apparatus of claim 144 ~~An apparatus, comprising:~~
~~a tubular sleeve;~~
~~a first tubular member coupled to an end of the tubular sleeve comprising internal threads~~
~~at an end portion; and~~
~~a second tubular member coupled to another end of the tubular sleeve comprising external~~
~~threads at an end portion that engage the internal threads of the end portion of the~~
~~first tubular member;~~
wherein the another end of the tubular sleeve is deformed onto the end of the
second tubular member.

138. (Withdrawn-currently amended) The apparatus of claim 144 further ~~An apparatus,~~
~~comprising:~~
~~a tubular sleeve;~~
~~a first tubular member coupled to an end of the tubular sleeve comprising internal threads~~
~~at an end portion;~~
~~a second tubular member coupled to another end of the tubular sleeve comprising external~~
~~threads at an end portion that engage the internal threads of the end portion of the~~
~~first tubular member; and~~
a retaining ring coupled to the end of the first tubular member for retaining the tubular
sleeve onto the end of the first tubular member.

139. (Withdrawn-currently amended) The apparatus of claim 144 further ~~An apparatus,~~
~~comprising:~~
~~a tubular sleeve;~~
~~a first tubular member coupled to an end of the tubular sleeve comprising internal threads~~
~~at an end portion;~~

~~a second tubular member coupled to another end of the tubular sleeve comprising external threads at an end portion that engage the internal threads of the end portion of the first tubular member; and~~
a retaining ring coupled to the end of the second tubular member for retaining the another end of the tubular sleeve onto the end of the second tubular member.

140. (Withdrawn-currently amended) The apparatus of claim 144 further ~~An apparatus,~~ comprising:

~~a tubular sleeve;~~
~~a first tubular member coupled to an end of the tubular sleeve comprising internal threads at an end portion;~~
~~a second tubular member coupled to another end of the tubular sleeve comprising external threads at an end portion that engage the internal threads of the end portion of the first tubular member; and~~
a locking ring for coupling the end of the first tubular member to the end of the tubular sleeve.

141. (Withdrawn-currently amended) The apparatus of claim 144 further ~~An apparatus,~~ comprising:

~~a tubular sleeve;~~
~~a first tubular member coupled to an end of the tubular sleeve comprising internal threads at an end portion;~~
~~a second tubular member coupled to another end of the tubular sleeve comprising external threads at an end portion that engage the internal threads of the end portion of the first tubular member; and~~
a locking ring for coupling the end of the second tubular member to the another end of the tubular sleeve.

142. (Previously presented) An apparatus, comprising:
a tubular sleeve;

a first tubular member coupled to an end of the tubular sleeve, the first tubular member comprising internal threads at an end portion;
a second tubular member coupled to another end of the tubular sleeve, the second tubular member comprising external threads at an end portion that engage the internal threads of the end portion of the first tubular member; and
a structure for receiving the first and second tubular members and the tubular sleeve;
wherein the coupled tubular sleeve and first and second tubular members include a radially expanded and plastically deformed position wherein the tubular sleeve contacts the interior surface of the structure.

143. (Previously presented) An apparatus, comprising:
a tubular sleeve;
a first tubular member coupled to an end of the tubular sleeve, the first tubular member comprising internal threads at an end portion; and
a second tubular member coupled to another end of the tubular sleeve, the second tubular member comprising external threads at an end portion that engage the internal threads of the end portion of the first tubular member;
wherein the tubular sleeve further comprises a sealing element coupled to the exterior surface of the tubular sleeve;
wherein the coupled tubular sleeve and first and second tubular members include a radially expanded and plastically deformed position.

144. (Previously presented) An apparatus comprising:
a tubular sleeve;
a first tubular member coupled to an end of the tubular sleeve, the first tubular member comprising internal threads at an end portion; and
a second tubular member coupled to another end of the tubular sleeve, the second tubular member comprising external threads at an end portion that engage the internal threads of the end portion of the first tubular member;
wherein the tubular sleeve is metallic;

wherein the coupled tubular sleeve and first and second tubular members include a radially expanded and plastically deformed position.

145. (Withdrawn-currently amended) The apparatus of claim 129 ~~An apparatus, comprising:~~
a tubular sleeve;
a first tubular member coupled to an end of the tubular sleeve comprising internal threads at an end portion; and
a second tubular member coupled to another end of the tubular sleeve comprising external threads at an end portion that engage the internal threads of the end portion of the first tubular member; wherein the tubular sleeve is non-metallic.
146. (Withdrawn-currently amended) The apparatus of claim 129 ~~An apparatus, comprising:~~
a tubular sleeve;
a first tubular member coupled to an end of the tubular sleeve comprising internal threads at an end portion; and
a second tubular member coupled to another end of the tubular sleeve comprising external threads at an end portion that engage the internal threads of the end portion of the first tubular member;
wherein the tubular sleeve is plastic.
147. (Withdrawn-currently amended) The apparatus of claim 129 ~~An apparatus, comprising:~~
a tubular sleeve;
a first tubular member coupled to an end of the tubular sleeve comprising internal threads at an end portion; and
a second tubular member coupled to another end of the tubular sleeve comprising external threads at an end portion that engage the internal threads of the end portion of the first tubular member; wherein the tubular sleeve is ceramic.
148. (Previously presented) An apparatus, comprising:
a tubular sleeve;

a first tubular member coupled to an end of the tubular sleeve, the first tubular member comprising internal threads at an end portion; and
a second tubular member coupled to another end of the tubular sleeve, the second tubular member comprising external threads at an end portion that engage the internal threads of the end portion of the first tubular member;
wherein the tubular sleeve is frangible;
wherein the coupled tubular sleeve and first and second tubular members include a radially expanded and plastically deformed position.

149. (Withdrawn-currently amended) The apparatus of claim 129 ~~An apparatus, comprising:~~
~~a tubular sleeve;~~
~~a first tubular member coupled to an end of the tubular sleeve comprising internal threads at an end portion; and~~
~~a second tubular member coupled to another end of the tubular sleeve comprising external threads at an end portion that engage the internal threads of the end portion of the first tubular member;~~
wherein the tubular sleeve comprises one or more longitudinal slots.

150. (Withdrawn-currently amended) The apparatus of claim 129 ~~An apparatus, comprising:~~
~~a tubular sleeve;~~
~~a first tubular member coupled to an end of the tubular sleeve comprising internal threads at an end portion; and~~
~~a second tubular member coupled to another end of the tubular sleeve comprising external threads at an end portion that engage the internal threads of the end portion of the first tubular member;~~
wherein the tubular sleeve comprises one or more radial passages.

151. (Previously presented) An apparatus, comprising:
a tubular sleeve;

a first tubular member coupled to an end of the tubular sleeve, the first tubular member comprising internal threads at an end portion; and
a second tubular member coupled to another end of the tubular sleeve, the second tubular member comprising external threads at an end portion that engage the internal threads of the end portion of the first tubular member;
wherein the coupled tubular sleeve and first and second tubular members include a radially expanded and plastically deformed position wherein the first and second tubular members are amorhously bonded.

152. (Previously presented) An apparatus, comprising:
a tubular sleeve;
a first tubular member coupled to an end of the tubular sleeve, the first tubular member comprising internal threads at an end portion; and
a second tubular member coupled to another end of the tubular sleeve, the second tubular member comprising external threads at an end portion that engage the internal threads of the end portion of the first tubular member;
wherein the coupled tubular sleeve and first and second tubular members include a radially expanded and plastically deformed position wherein the first and second tubular members are welded.

153. (Previously presented) An apparatus, comprising:
a tubular sleeve;
a first tubular member coupled to an end of the tubular sleeve, the first tubular member comprising internal threads at an end portion; and
a second tubular member coupled to another end of the tubular sleeve, the second tubular member comprising external threads at an end portion that engage the internal threads of the end portion of the first tubular member;
wherein the coupled tubular sleeve and first and second tubular members include a radially expanded and plastically deformed position;

wherein the internal threads of the first tubular member and the external threads of the second tubular member together provide a fluid tight seal.

154. (Currently amended) A method of radially expanding and plastically deforming a first tubular member and a second tubular member, comprising:

inserting a threaded end portion of the first tubular member into an end of a tubular sleeve having an internal flange;

inserting a threaded end portion of the second tubular member into another end of the tubular sleeve;

threadably coupling the threaded end portions of the first and second tubular members within the tubular sleeve;

placing the tubular members in another structure; and

then, displacing an expansion device through the interiors of the first and second tubular members to radially expand and plastically deform portions of the first and second tubular members;

wherein the internal diameters of the radially expanded and plastically deformed portions of the first and second tubular members are equal.

155. (Canceled).

156. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~154-155~~, further comprising:
radially expanding the tubular sleeve into engagement with the structure.

157. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~154-155~~, further comprising:
sealing an annulus between the tubular sleeve and the other structure.

158. (Previously presented) The method of claim 154, wherein the tubular sleeve further comprises a sealing element coupled to the exterior of the tubular sleeve.

159. (Previously presented) A method of radially expanding and plastically deforming a first tubular member and a second tubular member, comprising:

inserting a threaded end portion of the first tubular member into an end of a tubular sleeve;
coupling the end of the tubular sleeve to the threaded end portion of the first tubular member;

inserting a threaded end portion of the second tubular member into another end of the tubular sleeve;

threadably coupling the threaded end portions of the first and second tubular members within the tubular sleeve;

coupling the other end of the tubular sleeve to the threaded end portion of the second tubular member; and

displacing an expansion device through the interiors of the first and second tubular members to radially expand and plastically deform portions of the first and second tubular members;

wherein the internal diameters of the radially expanded and plastically deformed portions of first and second tubular members are equal.

160. (Previously presented) The method of claim 159, further comprising:

placing the tubular members in another structure prior to displacing the expansion device through the interiors of the first and second tubular members.

161. (Previously presented) The method of claim 160, further comprising:

radially expanding the tubular sleeve into engagement with the structure.

162. (Previously presented) The method of claim 160, further comprising:

sealing an annulus between the tubular sleeve and the structure.

163. (Previously presented) The method of claim 159, wherein the tubular sleeve further comprises a sealing element coupled to the exterior of the tubular sleeve.

164. (New) An apparatus, comprising:
a first expandable tubular member coupled with an end of an aperture-free tubular sleeve;
a second expandable tubular member coupled with another end of the aperture-free tubular sleeve; and
an expansion device axially displaceable through the interiors of the first and second tubular members to radially expand and plastically deform portions of the first and second tubular members;
wherein, before, during, and after the radial expansion of the portions of the first and second tubular members, a fluid tight seal is provided by the interface between the aperture-free tubular sleeve and the first and second tubular members.
165. (New) The apparatus of claim 164, wherein the first and second tubular members are received within the ends of the tubular sleeve.
166. (New) The apparatus of claim 164, wherein the first and second tubular members receive the ends of the tubular sleeve.
167. (New) The apparatus of claim 164, further comprising a wellbore receiving the first and second tubular members.